

November, 2004

Dear Colleagues,

Snow season is just around the corner and VDOT's Northern Virginia snow team is ready for the challenge. This winter's budget is \$85 million for snow removal operations across the state, including \$24.7 million in northern Virginia.

Last winter, northern Virginia spent \$22.2 million on snow removal, about \$1.3 million **less** than budgeted. We spent an average of 16 percent less per snow event, yet experienced more snow than normal. The reduced costs was the result of managing budgets more efficiently, using technology more effectively, sharing resources between residencies and districts, and streamlining operations.

VDOT will continue to manage its snow budget by working smarter and efficiently, while providing essential services to keep roadways plowed, cleared and treated during winter weather.

We have several information resources available to you and your constituents this winter. Our snow-brochure is on our Web site and answers frequently asked questions about snow removal. For copies of *Northern Virginia Snow Removal*, call 703 383-2055. During storms, you can find out the status of our snow removal efforts and road conditions by typing in your county or city on the home page of VirginiaDOT.org or by calling 703 383-VDOT. And don't forget to check our traffic cameras for road conditions on interstates 95, 395, 495 and 66 at www.Trafficland.com.

Smart Tag, Virginia's electronic toll collection system, is now part of the E-ZPass network. Now Smart Tag users can cruise past tollbooths from Virginia to Massachusetts without waiting in lines at tollbooths. E-ZPass is accepted in West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Massachusetts. Next year it will be accepted in Illinois, New Hampshire and Maine.

In other news, we have advertised for bids to design-build the final 1.5 mile segment of the <u>Fairfax County Parkway</u> from Rolling Road to Fullerton Road. We expect the Commonwealth Transportation Board to award a contract next spring and construction to begin by early summer. Portions of the roadway will open to traffic by the end of 2007. Using a design-build contract will allow us to deliver the project 18 months earlier than originally planned.

Dennis Morrison VDOT Northern Virginia District Administrator Dennis.Morrison@VirginiaDOT.org 703.383.2477

What's New

Did you know that a section of I-95 in Prince William County could become a Highway Safety Corridor?

The 11-mile section of I-95 between Route 619 at Triangle and Route 123 at Occoquan has a higher vehicle crash rate than normal for Virginia, according to recent crash data. Increased law enforcement, higher fines for driving violations, and new signs are proposed to enhance safety.

We'd like your input. Does this section need more safety attention? What are your ideas?

The Virginia State Police, Department of Motor Vehicles and Department of Transportation want your opinion.

- How: Provide comments at the Highway Safety Corridor public hearing or by mail/e-mail about what should be done to enhance safety on this section of I-95.
- When: Thursday, November 18, 2004. Presentation starts at 6 p.m., followed by questions and answers and an opportunity to give comments.
- Where: A. J. Ferlazzo Building, 15941 Donald Curtis Drive, Suite 200, Woodbridge, VA.

If you cannot attend and want to provide comments for the record, or want to know more about *Highway Safety Corridors*, send an e-mail to <u>Highwaysafetycorridors@VirginiaDOT.org</u> or mail to Stephen Read, Mobility Management Division, VDOT, 1401 E. Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Comments on designating the corridor will be accepted until December 3.

Following the public hearing and comment period, I-95 between milepost 149 near the exit to Route 619 at Triangle and milepost 160 near the exit to Route 123 at Occoquan may be designated as a *Highway Safety Corridor* under legislation passed by the 2003 Virginia General Assembly. If this happens, there will be signs posted, and an information campaign will alert drivers to the consequences of unsafe driving in the safety corridors, such as increased fines for speeding.

The Virginia State Police, Department of Motor Vehicles and Department of Transportation ensure nondiscrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For special assistance or more information, call 703-383-VDOT. (TTY users, call 711).

News Releases

VDOT is Ready for Winter Weather

Expect I-66 Westbound Delays at Route 234 Business

SMART TAG – E-ZPass Merge Oct. 27





For more information about Fairfax and Arlington County projects contact

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Projects to be Advertised for Construction Bids within the next 12 months

Note: Construction typically begins three to four months after a project is advertised.

Columbia Pike Streetscape improvements from South Wakefield Street to Four Mile Run Drive. Ad date: November 2005.

Duke Street Construct pedestrian bridge near Cameron Station. Ad date: Dec. 2004.

Dulles Toll Road Toll booth modifications from Route 28 to I-495. Ad date: June 2005.

Glebe Road/South Walter Reed Drive Modify signal, crosswalk and improve lighting at intersection. A Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety project. Ad date: Oct. 2004.

Georgetown Pike Traffic calming improvements from Route 7 to Route 123. Ad date: March 2005

Reston Parkway Install an additional left turn lane south of Sunrise Valley Drive. Ad date: June 2005.

Spring Hill Road Widen to four lanes from Route 7 (Leesburg Pike) to International Drive. Ad date: July 2005.

Traffic Cameras Install 25 traffic cameras in Arlington County. Ad date: Sept. 2005.

Fairfax and Arlington County Projects Under Construction

Burke Lake Road Widen from two to four lanes from Lee Chapel Road to the Fairfax County Parkway (1.2 miles). Completed fall 2005. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/const-project.asp?ID=116)

Dulles Toll Road Modify Smart Tag lanes at both Route 28 and the Main Toll Plaza. This will include upgrading toll collection equipment and signage for Smart Tag lanes. The existing Smart Tag lane at Route 28 North will be improved to an open toll lane. Completion, June 2005.

Dulles Toll Road/Capital Beltway Widening ramps from one to two lanes both to and from the Capital Beltway. Completion, Sept. 2005.

Gambrill Road Construct a 225-space park-and-ride lot. Began, May 2004. Completion, June 2005.

Interstate 395 Enhance signage from Washington Boulevard to the District of Columbia line. Begins, Oct. 2004.

Lorton Road Widen from two to six lanes from Route 1 to Silverbrook Road including a new bridge over Pohick Creek (1.06 miles). Began, July, 2004. Completion, Aug. 2006.

Route 1 Widening from Armistead Road to Telegraph Road (1.2 miles) to include six lanes divided with a trail on the east side and an extra turn lane from Telegraph Road to Armistead Road. Completion, Nov. 2005.

(http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/const-project.asp?ID=63)

Route 28 Improvements Under the Public-Private Partnership Act, The Clark Construction Group, Inc. and Shirley Contracting Company, LLC are designing and constructing six high-capacity interchanges on Route 28 in Fairfax and Loudoun counties. Completion, May 2007. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/const-project.asp?ID=60)

Route 123 Widening Phase 3 Widening Route 123 to four lanes divided from North Davis Drive to Route 722 (1.9 miles). Completion, May 2006. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/const-project.asp?ID=57)

Springfield Interchange Phases 6 and 7, the final phases of the project are underway. The project remains on schedule. For lane closures, maps, photos and commuter options please visit springfieldinterchange.com (http://www.springfieldinterchange.com/)

Telegraph Road Construction of three retaining walls between Newington Road and Beulah Street to correct a landslide. Trail and landscaping also will be replaced. Completion, Dec. 2004.

West Ox Road Widen from two to four lanes from Ox Trail to Lawyers Road (1.1 mile). Construction began April 20, 2004. Completion, September 2006.

Woodrow Wilson Bridge (Va. projects) For construction progress and weekly lane closures visit the project web site. (http://www.wilsonbridge.com/)

Fairfax and Arlington County Projects Completed Since 2001

Beulah Street Widening from two to four lanes between Franconia-Springfield Parkway and Franconia Road (1.3 miles). Completed July 1, 2004. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/const-project.asp?ID=51)

Burke Centre Parkway Widened from two to four lanes between Marshall Pond Road and Burke Lake Road. Improvements included dedicated left and right turn lanes, sidewalks and a multipurpose trail for pedestrians and bicyclists, a new drainage system and signal improvements to help traffic flow. Completed Nov. 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-burke-ctr-pkwy.asp)

Columbia Pike Bridge over Four Mile Run Replaced original bridge, widened sidewalk on south side of bridge, replaced and repaired drainage systems and constructed approach slabs. Completed winter 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/arlington-columbiapikebridge.asp)

Dulles Toll Road at Spring Hill Road Expanded toll plaza at the westbound Spring Hill Road entrance from one lane to three. Smart Tag can be used in all three lanes. Completed Dec. 2003. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-dulles_plaza.asp)

Fairfax County Parkway Completion of the northern section of the Fairfax County Parkway gives motorists a continuous four and six-lane highway from Route 7 in Dranesville to Beulah Street in Kingstowne. Completed Nov. 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-ctyparkway.asp)

Interstate 495 Erect a sound wall, 2,089 feet in length, on the inner loop of the Capital Beltway just north of Old Dominion Drive at West Langley. Completed May 2004.

Lorton Road Park-and-Ride Constructed a new 170-space lot located just east of I-95. Completed Oct. 2003. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-lortonrd-parkride.asp)

Old Dominion Drive Bridge The 50-year-old bridge over Pimmit Run Creek on Old Dominion Drive in McLean has been improved and is open to motorists. Completed Oct. 2002. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-olddom.asp)

Pleasant Valley Road Straighten curves north and south of Braddock Road and north of Martins Hundred Road.

Completed Sept. 15, 2004.

Rolling and Fullerton Roads The intersection was realigned and turn lanes were added. Motorists can now use Fullerton Road through the Industrial Park. Completed Nov. 2003. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-Rolling FullertonRd.asp)

Route 28/Air and Space Museum Parkway Partial cloverleaf to provide access to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. Interchange opened prior to the opening of the Museum in Dec. 2003. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-barnesfield.asp)

Route 28/Route 29 Interchange Construction of a grade-separated interchange in Centreville is now complete. Route 28 traffic flows uninterrupted under Route 29 and both roads have six through lanes and additional turn lanes. Completed Dec. 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-rt2829.asp)

Route 123 Widening Phase 1 Widened Route 123 to four lanes divided from Burke Lake Road to Lee Chapel Road (2.4 miles). Opened summer 2003. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-rt123widening.asp)

Route 123 Widening Phase 2 Widening Route 123 to four lanes divided from Lee Chapel Road to North Davis Drive (2.5 miles). Opened to traffic April 30, 2004. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/const-project.asp?ID=56)

Route 233 (Reagan National Airport) Crews completed bridge deck repairs and concrete overlay. Completed in Dec. 2003. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/arlington-rt233-bridge.asp)

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Site and support work for construction of the new Museum south of Dulles International Airport. Included completing service roads, haul roads, taxi pad, utilities and visitor and bus parking lots. Completed Sep. 2003. (http://www.nasm.si.edu/nasm/ext/)

Springfield Interchange Improvement Project Phases 2 and 3, which focused on improvements to I-95, Route 644 and other local roads in Springfield, were completed in late 2001. (http://www.springfieldinterchange.com/)

Stringfellow Road Park–and-Ride Constructed a 387-space lot adjacent to the I-66 HOV Lanes. Completed late 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-stringfellowp-r.asp)

Telegraph Road Widening Widened from two lanes to four lanes with a 16-foot median and two four-foot bicycle lanes from Beulah Street to Route 1 (2.5 miles). Completed March 2002. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-telegraph.asp)

Van Dorn Street Safety Improvements New sidewalks, curb and gutter, roadway lighting, business entrances and a raised, landscaped concrete median were added. Completed July 2003. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-vandorn-safety.asp)





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Claude Moore Park (Route 1006) Improve existing north entrance by adding southbound left and northbound right turn lanes at the intersection with Route 637 opposite Maries Road. Ad date: May 2005.

John Wolford Road (Route 694) Upgrade from gravel to paved road from 0.81 mile west of Route 287 to 0.39 mile west of Route 287 (.42 mile). Ad date: March 2005.

Maryland Avenue (Route 708) Upgrade from gravel to paved road from Route 709 to Route 1102 (.22 miles) using Rural Rustic Road design standards. Begins March 2005.

Mount Gilead Road (Route 797) Upgrade from gravel to paved road from 0.8 mile south of Route 662 (Loudoun Orchard Road) to Route 662 (.80 mile) using Rural Rustic Road design standards. Ad date: May 2005.

Rodgers Street (Route 1103) Upgrade from gravel to paved road from Route 7 to Route 1105 (.13 mile) using Rural Rustic Road design standards. Begins March 2005.

Stumptown Road (Route 662) Install drainage pipe across Route 662, just west of Route 15. Ad date: Oct. 2004.

West Virginia Avenue (Route 1105) Upgrade from gravel to paved road from Route 1102 to Route 1103 (.11 mile) using Rural Rustic Road design standards. Begins March 2005.

Loudoun County Projects Under Construction

Milton Court (Route 836) Improve ditch drainage from Route 817 to end of State maintenance (.11 mile) Began Oct. 2004. Completion, fall 2004.

Route 28 Improvements Under the Public-Private Partnership Act, The Clark Construction Group, Inc. and Shirley Contracting Company, LLC are designing and constructing six high-capacity interchanges on Route 28 in Fairfax and Loudoun counties. Completion, May 2007. (http://www.28freeway.com/)

Ticonderoga Road (Route 613) Improve and realign intersection at Route 659. Re-advertised in May 2004. Construction began July 2004.

Loudoun County Projects Completed Since 2001

Belmont Ridge Road Extend right turn lane at Route 7. Began May 2004; opened Aug. 2004.

Dulles North Transit Center Park-and-Ride A 750-space commuter lot has been constructed at the Dulles Greenway and Route 606. Completed summer 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt606p-r.asp)

Featherbed Road Rehabilitation and deck replacement on truss span bridge located between Loyalty Road and Milltown Road.

Lime Kiln Road Upgraded from gravel to asphalt and realigned roadway to improve sight distance (2.1 miles). Completed summer 2003. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-limekiln.asp)

Loudoun Orchard Road (Route 662) Upgrade dirt road to a paved road from intersection of Mt. Gilead Road (Route 797) to 0.38 miles South of Route 729 (1.3 miles). This is a pilot project under VDOT's new Rural Rustic Road Program.

Old Ox Road (Route 606) Widened from two to four lanes between Route 50 and Evergreen Mills Road/ Route 621 (.81 miles) and improved drainage. A traffic signal was installed at Route 621. Completed Nov. 2003.

Potomac View Road (Route 637) Improve 1200 feet of roadway to provide 12-foot lanes and construct right and left turn lanes at the entrance to First Baptist Church. Completed fall 2004.

Red Bud Lane (Route 1505) Upgraded from a dirt road to a paved road from Route 1504 to one mile south of Route 1504. Completed fall 2003.

Route 7 Crews added an additional lane in each direction between Cedar Drive and Dranesville Road. Completed summer 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt7.asp)

Route 15 Safety improvements between Balls Bluff Road and White's Ferry Road (1.7 miles). Completed May 2003. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt15-ballsbluff-whitesferry.asp)

Route 28 Crews widened Route 28 and added two dedicated left-turn lanes onto Route 606 in Loudoun County. Completed spring 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt28.asp)

Route 50 Bridge at Aldie Repair work is complete for the 180-year-old stone arch bridge on Route 50 over Little River near the Aldie Mill. Completed Oct. 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-aldie.asp)

Route 287 VDOT crews eliminated the curve on Berlin Road to improve sight distance for motorists approaching the intersection. Completed summer 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt287.asp)

Shelburne Glebe Road (Route 729) Replace temporary bridge with permanent bridge over North Fork Goose Creek located .66 miles north of North Fork Road (Route 728). Bridge reopened Aug. 1, 2004. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/const-project.asp?ID=66)

South Church Street A half-mile section of South Church Street between Lovettsville Road and Berlin Turnpike was widened to improve safety. Completed Nov. 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-sthchurch.asp)

Taylorstown Road Upgraded from a gravel road to a paved road between Furnace Mountain Road and Wilt Store Road. Completed July 2002. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-taylorstown.asp

Woodburn Road VDOT upgraded Woodburn Road from gravel to asphalt, realigned sections to improve sight distance and added drainage and other safety features. Completed June 2002. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-woodburn.asp)



Prince William Co.



For more information about Prince William County projects contact

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Projects to be Advertised for Construction Bids within the next 12 months

Note: Construction typically begins three to four months after a project is advertised.

I-66/Route 29 Interchange (Phase I) Construct four-lane East-West Connector road over I-66 from Route 29 at the Conway Robinson State Park entrance to Wellington Road. Begins late 2004.

Linton Hall Road (Route 619) Widen to six lanes from Route 29 to Glenkirk Road and widen to four lanes from Glenkirk Road to Devlin Road. To be readvertised Dec. 2004. Begins spring 2005.

Route 234 (Dumfries Road) Widen from two to four lanes between Eclipse Drive and Country Club Drive (3.3 miles). Begins spring 2005

Prince William County Projects Under Construction

I-66 Widening Add one regular lane and one HOV lane in each direction from Route 234 Business to the Route 234 Bypass (3 miles). Construction began Aug. 2004.

Richmond Avenue Widening from Dumfries Road to Nagel Street (.75 miles). One lane will be added in each direction along with a sidewalk on the south side and a paved bike trail on the north side. Completion, July 2005.

Route 123 Bridge Over Occoquan River Replace two-lane bridge with a new six-lane bridge and widen approaches. Completion, May 2006. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/const-project.asp?ID=58)

Route 234 (Dumfries Road) Widen from two to four lanes between Snowfall Road and Eclipse Drive (3.2 miles). Construction began March 2004 and will be completed July 2006. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/const-project.asp?ID=72)

Prince William County Projects Completed Since 2001

Horner Road Park-and-Ride Lot Expansion Completed the largest commuter lot in Virginia, with 2,267 spaces added by VDOT and the county. Completed July 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-horner-ParkRide.asp)

I-95 Bridge over Route 619 The 36-year-old north and southbound bridges over Route 619 were replaced with new bridges and shoulders wide enough to accommodate future travel lanes. Completed Nov. 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95rt619.asp)

I-95 Bridges over Quantico Creek The 40-year-old north and southbound bridges over Quantico Creek were reconstructed with new bridge piers and widened shoulders. The bridges are wide enough to accommodate future travel lanes. Completed fall 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95quantico.asp)

I-95/Route 234 Interchange The former diamond interchange is now a partial cloverleaf with loops in the northeast and southwest quadrants. The Route 234 bridge over I-95 has been widened and the acceleration and deceleration lanes on I-95 were lengthened. Completed April 2002. (http://www.virginiadot.org//projects/nova/prwilliam-I95rt234.asp)

Ingram Drive Paved gravel road from 75 feet north of Chestnut Creek to Logmill Road (.77 miles). Completed late 2003.

Route 29/234 Intersection Safety Improvements Safety Improvements in the Manassas National Battlefield Park included adding left-turn lanes to each leg of the intersection, improving sight distance on Route 234, installing a pedestrian bridge, a crosswalk, traffic signals and re-timing traffic signals. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt29-rt234-safety.asp)

Route 234 Bypass Construction of a 10-mile, four-lane bypass west of Manassas is complete. The bypass runs from I-66 to Brentsville Road where it connects with existing Route 234. Completed Dec. 2001. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt234byp.asp)

Route 234 Bypass Constructed sound wall adjacent to the Great Oaks Subdivision. Completed fall 2003.

Route 234 Widening Route 234 was widened from a two-lane roadway to a four-lane divided highway. Completed Sept. 2002. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt234wide.asp)

Route 234/Route 1 Park-and-Ride Constructed a 360-space lot near Route I-95.

Smoketown Road Constructed northbound left turn lane at Old Bridge Road. Construction began March 1, 2004, four months ahead of schedule. Completed spring 2004.

Veteran's Memorial Park Constructed a pedestrian bridge over the CSX Railroad from Veterans Memorial Park to Partridge Road. Completed Oct. 24, 2003.

Major Transportation Studies

Tri-County Parkway Location Study

Fall 2003 Newsletter

VDOT is evaluating a new north/south transportation link to connect the City of Manassas with I-66 and the Dulles Corridor. More than 200 citizens attended information meetings held in Loudoun, Prince William and Fairfax counties during December 2002. The study team shared preliminary alternatives and sought public input. The study team is currently reviewing the initial range of conceptual alternatives to determine build alternatives for the Draft EIS which will be completed by fall 2004, with public hearings in early 2005.

Capital Beltway Study June 2004 meetings

In March 2002, the FHWA approved the Draft EIS for improvements to the 14-mile section between the Springfield Interchange and the American Legion Bridge. More than 1,000 citizens attended the public hearings held on May 28, 29 and 30, 2002. Currently, VDOT is evaluating modifications that would reduce the size of the facility and the concept of implementing HOT lanes (high occupancy toll lanes) on the Beltway. Results of these additional evaluations were presented at public workshops June 29 and 30, 2004. VDOT will make a recommendation on the Capital Beltway Study to the CTB in early 2005.

I-66 Multimodal Transportation and Environmental Study

Summer 2003 Newsletter

VDOT and the DRPT are identifying possible highway, rail and bus improvements along the 24-mile corridor from the Capital Beltway to Route 15 at Haymarket. In order to assess the impact on the EIS of the current state transportation revenue situation, the need to consider congestion pricing as an alternative, and the need to consider the current pavement situation Secretary Clement has asked VDOT and VDRPT to delay any further work on the EIS until those factors can be more fully evaluated.

Northern Virginia Bikeway and Trail Network Study

November 2003 Report

In October 2003, VDOT held meetings in Reston, Arlington and Manassas on an interconnected and seamless network of bikeways across Northern Virginia. The report, now Completed will serve as a planning tool to complete the network.

Route 1 Location Study

February 2003 Newsletter

VDOT has developed concepts for improving the 27-mile corridor from the Stafford County line to the Capital Beltway. Due to the length of the corridor the study is divided into three sections. Three location hearings were held in spring 2003. The Steering Committee met June 23, 2004. The Committee agreed to the following resolution regarding Study C: to obtain FHWA Location Approval for the Build alternative from Belvoir Woods Parkway to Pence Gate, and the No-build alternative from Pence Gate to the Capital Beltway. If that fails, then obtain FHWA Location Approval for the Build alternative from Belvoir Woods parkway to Pence Gate and from Route 235 (South) to Route 235 (North), and the No-build alternative from Pence Gate and from Route 235 (South) and from Route 235 (North) to the Capital Beltway. If that fails, then obtain FHWA Location Approval for the No-build alternative from Belvoir Woods Parkway to the Capital Beltway, which is all of Study C. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors endorsed the at-grade intersection configuration recommended by the Kings Crossing Focus Group for Rt. 1 at North and South Kings Highways. The project "B" Build alternative was approved by the CTB on April 15, 2004. The Project "A" alternative was approved by the CTB on July 15, 2004.

Route 50 Traffic Calming Project

VDOT and the Route 50 Traffic Calming Task Force are developing construction plans that will implement concepts to calm traffic, enhance the scenic beauty and historic nature of the area and provide for enhanced pedestrian safety and accessibility along the corridor. The first projects to be constructed are in the villages of Upperville and Aldie. In June, a community meeting was held in Aldie that resulted in a new concept, a long splitter, to replace the previously approved alignment shift. This design will have less impacts on the adjacent properties and the historic district. The community and Route 50 Task Force approved this alternative design. Design and land acquisition for Gilberts Corner is proceeding, and the design of the segment west of Middleburg is underway. Accrual of funds for the remaining segment is on-going.

Non-VDOT Studies:

Dulles Corridor Rapid Transit

(http://www.dullestransit.com/)

In August 2003, the DRPT submitted a formal request to the Federal Transit Administration to begin preliminary engineering on Phase I of the Metrorail extension. This request is currently pending. The Supplemental Draft EIS and revised General Plans, which address changes to the project associated with phased construction, were published in late October 2003. Public hearings on the Supplemental Draft EIS were held December 3rd in Reston and December 11th in Loudoun County. A public hearing report and team recommendations were published in February 2004. on March 16, 2004 the CTB approved revised LPA and DRPT's plan to construct the project in two phases: Phase 1 to Wiehle Avenue and Phase 2 to Dulles Airport and Rt. 722 in Loudoun County. The METRO Board approved the revised LPA on April 15, 2004. The Federal Transit Administration approved DRPT's request to begin preliminary engineering on Phase 1 of the Metrorail extension in June 2004 and awarded a \$59 million grant to begin preliminary engineering. Preliminary Engineering and related project development activities will be conducted by Dulles Transit Partners, LLC under the terms of a Public-Private Partnership Act (PPTA) Comprehensive Agreement approved by DRPT in June 2004. A new project office in Tysons Corner opened Aug. 2004. Mobilization activities for preliminary engineering are currently underway; engineering for the Wiehle Avenue Extension will begin in October 2004. The Projects Final EIS was approved by DRPT and WMATA in September 2004 and has been submitted to FTA for approval. Publication of the Final EIS is expected in October. The FY 2004 Federal Transportation Bill includes \$20 million for the project, a total of \$163.5 to date in Federal funding.

Capital Beltway Rail Feasibility Study

Study completed in April 2001 by the Virginia DRPT.

(http://www.drpt.state.va.us/projects/previous/bwr.asp)

Manassas National Battlefield Park Bypass Study

(http://www.battlefieldbypass.com)

The Federal Highway Administration and National Park Service are developing and evaluating alternatives to allow for closing portions of Route 29 and 234 in the Park. A public workshop was held on March 16 at Stonewall Jackson High School to present the Candidate Build Alternatives. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement is being prepared and a formal public hearing is scheduled for the summer of 2004. Information on the alternatives is available on the website.

Alphabet Soup ...

CTB Commonwealth Transportation Board

DRPT Department of Rail and Public Transit

EIS Environmental Impact Statement

FHWA Federal Highway Administration

LPA Locally Preferred Alternative

WMATA Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority